

***Reasons for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to disclose a resectoscope device whereby a rod shaped carrier is supported on the optical system with a sliding tube, the sliding tube having a rotary lock comprising a bar that extends parallel to the carrier and extends into a slot in the guide tube. Several prior art references disclose a sliding tube that supports an electrode structure on an optical system. See, for example, USPN 3,752,159 (Figures 6-7); USPN 3835,842 (Figure 12); USPN 6,699,185 (Figure 2). But not of these sliding tubes that are supported on the optical system include a rotary lock mechanism as set forth in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Peffley whose telephone number is (571) 272-4770. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7am-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda Dvorak can be reached on (571) 272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3739

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Peffley/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3739

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